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The Independent, V. 28, Thursday, December 25, 1902, [Whole Number: 1434]

The Independent

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ESTABLISHED
1875.
Whole Number:
1434

THE INDEPENDENT

COLLEGEVILLE, PA.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1902

VOLUME TWENTY-EIGHT.

ACCEPT THE TRUTH WHEREVER FOUND.

DARE TO MAINTAIN THE TRUTH.

5555

52 NUMBERS:
\$1.00

1.00 PER YEAR IN ADVANCE.

SORROWS OF SANTA

I CHANCED into Santa Claus' home one day. And these are the words I heard him say:

"Ah, me, the times, the manners, the men! It used to be all so different when—"

"I was a young man in the long ago. And I used to be a very good boy."

"Then every home in every land gave unto me always a welcome hand. And children then in the days gone by were not over-mild and not over-gentle."

"And the stockings they used were the old fashioned kind, and I used to find—"

"Then the gifts were so simple and all in good taste. From the gingerbread man to the doll made of paste."

"But now it's so different. Helio, hear me sigh! I mourn for the days in the Land of Goney."

"For now I'm kept busy from early till late. In my earnest endeavors to be up to date."

"I've trimmed my old beard in the new Vandeyke style. And instead of a laugh I've a smirking smile."



"I've ceased to wear all my old fashioned clothes. And I've got on long shaws with the sharp pointed toes."

"And my reindeer and robes and my beautiful sleigh. With my gingerbread presents are all laid away."

"For I ride nowadays on a bicycle swift. And I'm puffed to know what to bring for a gift."

"To the girls in de siecle, and as for the boys. They're no use at all for my old fashioned toys."

"And the houses have changed. In those times things called a flat. I'm kept busy guessing just where I am at."

"Excuse me now, please, if I speak very low. I've come to my last and my cruelest blow."

"The worst, though what I have told you is bad. My sleigh has acquired the new woman's tail."

"And those were the words I heard him say. When he chanced in Santa Claus' home one day."

—Detroit News-Tribune.

AN ODD BELGIAN CUSTOM.

A picturesque procession on Christmas Eve.

In some odd Belgian towns a beautiful spectacle may be seen on Christmas eve. Amid the sound of drums, cymbals, and a whole orchestra of instruments, with the chanting of carols, a long, gayly decked procession marches through the principal streets—children of all ages, each division dressed in its special color (white, blue, pink or yellow), and all bearing some junk or emblem or grasping some bright ribbon attached to shrine or emblems. The effect of grouping and color is very artistic. Here and there in the throng older, stronger hands bear aloft precious relics, upon which the spectators reverently gaze. Many novel features come into view as the procession passes along, but the prettiest in the train of beautiful children in fantastic dress marching on the flower strewn pavement, each small person gravely absorbed in the special part it performs.—Pittsburg Dispatch.

JOYS OF CHRISTMAS

Festival should be one of gladness. Said the Late Dr. T. De Witt Talmage.

SONGS greeted the birth of our Saviour. Angelic tongues with living fire sang the incarnation as they hovered over the hills of Judea. The music was resonant with joy. From the hour that the Virgin laid her Babe on pillow of straw in the manger all Christendom has since that time made the anniversary of this natal day a season of gladness, a season of unbounded joy.

Breaths the laurel, twine the bay, Christ was born on Christmas day.

There were special reasons for these heavenly songs being sung by the celestial chorus, for there was joy in God's great heart, joy among the first-born sons of light, joy thrilling all the benighted empire, joy that is yet to be put in the new song sung by redeemed millions around the throne of "the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world."

It was the music of liberty. When these heavenly hosts sang the "Gloria in Excelsis," the whole world was ringing under galling yokes of oppression. Slavery was universal. Task-

masters were everywhere severe to those in servitude. Greece, Rome and Palestine heard daily the groans of chains. But the song of the angels rang the death-knell of bondage. The Babe was God's emancipation. His distinctive mission was to set at liberty the captives and proclaim deliverance to the bruised and crushed sons of toil. Under the mild and genial influence of our holy Christianity fetters fall off everywhere, until now in this morning of our new century there are few nations to be found that hold slaves. Glorious freedom! Triumphant achievement of the cross! Wherever it is proclaimed is broken and spiritual emancipation is proclaimed.

It was the music of hope. Until Jesus appeared all the ancient religions had offered only a message of despair. No light fell upon the grave or illumined the darkness. Darkness reigned in supreme, sullen majesty, and not a single star of hope glided into the future. The grave was an eternal prison. But the songs sung by the heavenly choristers on that eventful night heralded hope, a lost world, and into the soul of sinning humanity came the sweet rays of joy and peace and blessedness, and, looking down into the grave, all fear had vanished, for sin, the sting of death, was gone and canceled by a glorious Christ the Lord. They looked and beheld—

On the cold cheek of death smiles and roses are blending. And beauty immortal awakes from the tomb.

And this is our Christmas joy that Jesus has lifted into immortal hope the graves of all our beloved friends who sleep in him.

It was the music of victory. When Jesus came, the great victory of humanity was in jeopardy, and the dignity of labor was not comprehended. Toil was regarded as a degradation. Laborers were despised and all forms of manual industry held to be a disgrace. But the Son of Mary and Joseph came to teach the philosophy, and by honorable industry he proclaimed the dignity of labor and taught that—

The honest man, tho' ere was poor, Is king of men for a' that."

Jesus counts the beads of sweat upon the brow of every son of toil. He notes all injustice done the laboring classes, and only as his spirit prevails among men will the great conflict between labor and capital cease. But that day is coming ere long—the glad Christmas of ages—

When man to man the wider world o'er Shall brothers be and a' that."

—Christian Herald.

MEXICAN CUSTOMS.

Visiting and Giving Presents the Features of Yuletide.

A series of festivities beginning nine days before Christmas and ending on Christmas eve marks the Yuletide celebration in Mexico. In a circle of friends it is arranged that nine visits shall be paid to nine different houses. Each evening's party begins with prayer and the lighting of candles. These are followed by the presentation of a gift from each guest to the host or hostess of the evening. The first evening's gift is of small worth, but the value of the offering increases with every succeeding evening. That there may be nothing unfair in the distribution, the recipient of the first evening's offering one year becomes the last the following year. After the presentation there are dancing and supper. At midnight the candles are extinguished.

No two evenings' entertainments are exactly alike save in the offering of prayers, the lighting of candles and the presenting of gifts. On Christmas eve, a few minutes before midnight, all proceed to church to hear the midnight mass, and this ends the Christmas celebration for the year.—New York Tribune.

CANDLESTICKS AS GIFTS.

Antique Treasures Which May Be Found in Junkshops.

Candlesticks are decorative, utilitarian and thoroughly good form. What, then, could be more acceptable for Christmas gifts?

A pair of highly polished brass candlesticks give an air of distinction to the humblest surroundings. Their polish reflects the thrift of the housekeeper, and their presence denotes her good taste.

The genuine antique candlesticks, with their quaint, simple outline and, preferably to the more modern affairs that are apt to be a trifle too ornate for really good effect. The candlesticks may often be bought in junkshops for their gross weight, and many beautiful specimens have been picked up in this way by the clever and industrious collector.—New York Journal.

CHRISTMAS IN SERBIA.

A Santa Claus Who Receives Presents Instead of Giving Them.

In Servia they keep Christmas eve in a somewhat peculiar way. The father of the family goes into the wood and cuts down a straight young oak, choosing the most perfect he can find. He brings it in, saying, "Good evening and a happy Christmas," to which those present say, "May God grant both to thee, and mayest thou have riches and honor!" Then they throw over him grains of corn. Presently the young tree is placed upon the corner, where it remains until Christmas morning, when they salute by repeated firings of a pistol.

The national dish in Servia is pork. The poorest family in Servia will pinch themselves all through the year so as to have money enough to buy a pig at Christmas. Skewered to a long piece of wood, the pig is turned over a blazing fire until cooked, the guests watching the process with increasing interest. After dinner the candles are lit and songs sung. Santa Claus, who, in the person of an honored guest, is present to receive instead of to give presents, departs after the feast, decorated with a long ring of cakes around his neck and laden with such gifts as his friends can bestow.—Baltimore American.

The Christmas tree was first heard of in England about 1444. A tree was then set up in the middle of a pavement and decked with ivy as well as with other greens. From this use it was finally taken within the home, decorated with candles and evergreens with anything which gladdened and enhanced its brightness.

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H. V. KEYSER,
Trappe, Pa. Dealer in SCRAP METAL—Brass, Copper, Lead, Zinc and Glass; also old papers and rubber.

Tinsmithing & Machine Jobbing
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COLLEGEVILLE, PA. 42-Samples of paper always on hand.

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Collegeville, Pa. Second door above railroad. Finest grades of razors and tobacco always on hand.

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25 CENTS.
Our Latest Improved Method.
Best Teeth, \$5.00
Gold Crowns, 5.00
High Grade Work Only at Reasonable Prices.
TEETH WITHOUT PLATES.
ESTIMATES FREE.
CLEANING TEETH, 50c.
Fitzgerald's Dental Parlor,
28 W. Main Street, Norristown, Pa. Open 8 a. m. to 8 p. m. Sundays: 10 a. m. to 1 p. m.

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They are the best in the market. We have a full assortment of them.

ALSO A FULL LINE OF
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—AND—
Hair Robes.

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Is a good place to stop at when you visit Norristown. Excellent accommodations at reasonable rates.

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Electric Light
Comfort and convenience in every room in the big building, and "square" meals three times a day. Every effort made to please guests and make them feel at home.

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Aching Joints

In the fingers, toes, arms, and other parts of the body, are joints that are inflamed and swollen by rheumatism—that condition of the blood which affects the muscles also.

Sufferers dread to move, especially after sitting or lying long, and their condition is commonly worse in wet weather.

It has been a long time since we have been without Hood's Sarsaparilla. My father thinks he could not do without it. He has been troubled with rheumatism since he was a boy, and Hood's Sarsaparilla is the only medicine he can take that gives him his place in the world. Mrs. ADA M. HAWLEY, Iowa.

Hood's Sarsaparilla
and Pills
Remove the cause of rheumatism—no outward application can. Take them.

A CHRISTMAS CRIME
A Yuletide Tale of Two Homes

RIDGEWOOD had a thief! When I, Detective Martine of the metropolitan secret service, was called out there, I found the town in a state of excitement over the robberies. The principal ones had taken place in the mansion of Colonel Payne, the richest man in Ridgewood. There had been four burglaries at the Payne mansion. The first night silver was taken—small pieces consisting of spoons, forks, after dinner coffees and knives.

The second night a small rocking chair disappeared and several velvet covered footstools and nice little articles of bric-a-brac designed for Christmas gifts. The third night all the children's Christmas toys that had been carefully stored away in a Santa Claus cupboard by Colonel Payne and his wife, ready for Christmas eve, disappeared, and the fourth night the cellar was pillaged of its wine and fruits.

"Looks as if it was somebody inside the house," said the colonel after we had been over the ground pretty well. "Not exactly," said I, "or why would they take a rocking chair?"

The party that accompanied me through the house consisted of the

colonel's home, but out in the cold, frosty air, looking into the window of a little cottage. The cottage was the end one in a row of wooden houses, each with a grass plot around it. It belonged to William Winter, private secretary to Colonel Payne; and in the cottage lived Winter and his wife and Winter's mother; also six little Winters varying in age all the way from four to twelve years.

"I never saw anything so lovely in all my life," said the oldest Winter girl, saying as I pressed my nose against the glass and peered in through the narrow strip between the window sash and the casement.

There inside of the room stood a little Christmas tree upon a big box, and upon the tree and all around the foot of it stood dozens of beautiful Christmas gifts. Such a Christmas tree you never saw! There were little things in silver—spoons, forks, after dinner coffees and knives, and there was a rocking chair, also several little footstools and little articles of bric-a-brac, all newly covered with cheap chintz. And there were toys. Oh, so many toys! And upon the table at the side of the tree stood the best of wines and Christmas dainties.

"How sweet of you, Will!" Winter's pretty wife said as she threw her arms around his neck and kissed him. "How did you ever guess that I wanted all those silver things for the table?"

"I was sure you would get such a top-in-law," cried the old lady as her eyes fell upon the table with the wine and fruits.

"I have got the goodest papa in the world," yelled the six year old, while the shopkeepers lay in extra supplies and made a dive for the toys.

"I could sit in this rocking chair for a week," murmured Winter's wife, rocking herself back and forth with her foot on the gayly covered footstool. "If it wasn't that I felt as if I wanted to get up and kiss you again," she said to Winter for the twentieth time as she looked around.

"Now go to bed, all of you," cried Winter, "and something extra for the one who starts first. Don't let me hear a word from you again until tomorrow morning at breakfast, and then we'll have Christmas all day."

He hustled them out of the room, and when I tapped on the door there was no one left downstairs to open it but he.

"Well, what are you going to do about it?" I asked, stepping into the room and pointing to all the Christmas things.

"I don't know," said he, dropping down on the table and hiding his face in his hands. "I don't know, I am sure. It will kill her if you tell her."

"What made you take them?" I asked.

"Because he's got so much he doesn't know what to do with them," said Winter. "So I took them all easy like and thought it would blow over in a few days. You see, we have so many babies in our family," he added, "that there wasn't much left this year for Christmas. And the children have been talking about it every day for the last three months. It broke my heart to think I'd have to disappoint them, so I did the best I could for them."

"You watched the house all night for the colonel, did you?"

"Yes, except for about an hour; long enough to slip over here with an armful."

"Well, what are you going to do about it?"

"I know; I don't," he repeated. "It will kill her if you tell her."

"Do you want me to arrest you tonight, or will you wait until morning?" "Christmas day," he exclaimed, breaking down and beginning to cry like a baby. "I know I'm a wretch. Only kill me—do anything; but don't tell her."

It might have been that the spirit of Christmas was in the air. Perhaps the thought of those six little children and that sweet faced wife had a stronger influence than they should have had over a detective's heart. But I said to him, "Well, bundle up the things and come along with me, and we'll see what we can do about it."

We looked like two Santa Clauses ourselves. We slipped along the streets, choosing bylins and cross paths to the Payne residence.

We got into the triangular lawn by a rear path and stole softly up to the house. There was the dining room brilliantly lighted and in the middle stood a tree all bare and waiting for gifts, just as I told the colonel to arrange it.

There was no one in the room, and after I had pried up the sash we stole in together. There was only just time to drop our packages on the floor at the foot of the tree and to rush away again before the colonel's daughter came in.

"Oh, papa," she cried, "here are some presents for us."

But I heard no more just then, for I was busy helping poor Winter get away. An hour later I rang the colonel's front door bell. He opened the door himself.

"Come right in," said he. "I guess you are a wizard tonight. Set up after we were upstairs getting our presents together to hang on the tree the thief came back and left the Christmas presents."

"Everything there?" I asked.

"Everything," said he, "down to the last toy. We have counted them all. Poor fellow, he must have had a guilty conscience, and when it came Christmas eve he squared it with himself by sending back all he had stolen."

"Strange!" said I.

"Very strange," said the colonel. "I'd like, if I knew who the thief was, to send him something for a Christmas present, just as a reward for his conscience. As it is I ask you, detective, not to look him up. He has evidently turned over a new leaf this Christmas eve."

"Evidently," said I.

"Now, detective," said the colonel, "I am going to ask you to stay with us over Christmas and enjoy a nice holiday. And so that we can all have an extra fine day I am going to send one of the boys over to Winter's house tonight with these things so that he can have a merry Christmas as well as the rest of us."—Minneapolis Tribune.

Escaped With His Life.
"Did I have any luck hunting lions in Africa?"

"Yes, Great luck!"

"Didn't meet any lions?"—Washington Star.

colonel's home, but out in the cold, frosty air, looking into the window of a little cottage. The cottage was the end one in a row of wooden houses, each with a grass plot around it. It belonged to William Winter, private secretary to Colonel Payne; and in the cottage lived Winter and his wife and Winter's mother; also six little Winters varying in age all the way from four to twelve years.

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"Oh, papa," she cried, "here are some presents for us."

But I heard no more just then, for I was busy helping poor Winter get away. An hour later I rang the colonel's front door bell. He opened the door himself.

"Come right in," said he. "I guess you are a wizard tonight. Set up after we were upstairs getting our presents together to hang on the tree the thief came back and left the Christmas presents."

"Everything there?" I asked.

"Everything," said he, "down to the last toy. We have counted them all. Poor fellow, he must have had a guilty conscience, and when it came Christmas eve he squared it with himself by sending back all he had stolen."

"Strange!" said I.

"Very strange," said the colonel. "I'd like, if I knew who the thief was, to send him something for a Christmas present, just as a reward for his conscience. As it is I ask you, detective, not to look him up. He has evidently turned over a new leaf this Christmas eve."

"Evidently," said I.

"Now, detective," said the colonel, "I am going to ask you to stay with us over Christmas and enjoy a nice holiday. And so that we can all have an extra fine day I am going to send one of the boys over to Winter's house tonight with these things so that he can have a merry Christmas as well as the rest of us."—Minneapolis Tribune.

Escaped With His Life.
"Did I have any luck hunting lions in Africa?"

"Yes, Great luck!"

"Didn't meet any lions?"—Washington Star.

A TROPICAL CHRISTMAS

How the Day of Days Is Celebrated in Jamaica

CHRISTMAS with the mercury at 95 degrees in the shade and soaring away out of sight when exposed in the open!

The burning, almost boiling, rays of the sun beat vertically down from a deep blue dome of sky that is unbroken by a single film of cloud, and reflect back with added intensity of suffering heat from the parched, baked and cracked earth, and from the surface of the sea that shimmers like molten lead.

Christmas in a land of perpetual summer, and a hot wave at that, where a linen suit feels like a buffalo robe and the mere thought of a blazing Yule calendar induces an attack of fever!

The calendar may insist that it is the 25th of December, but to a stranger from the north, says a newspaper correspondent from Kingston, Jamaica, to whom the word "Christmas" has a sharp ring of skate blades on the ice, there is no real Christmas in the strange countries of the tropics.

In Kingston, the capital of Jamaica, the preparations for Christmas begin several weeks before the event. The shopkeepers lay in extra supplies and provide special attractions, pretty much after the manner of the New York stores. Among other things they import large quantities of sweetmeats and candies from London, New York and Paris, including chocolate creams and other confectionery which New Yorkers are accustomed to getting "fresh every hour." In Jamaica these delicacies are fresh every Christmas.

Chocolate groves in great numbers all over the island, but it must go to London or Paris or New York to be manufactured into candy, or even into the preparations for breakfast beverages. That is one of the expensive peculiarities of the country. The Christmas market is the great feature of the day, and almost the principal event of the year in a certain sense.

Everybody goes to market on Christmas day, and between the hours of 6 and 9 in the morning all the fashion and beauty of the island's capital are on dress parade through Victoria market.

The stalls in the market are gayly decorated with flags, bunting, palm branches, colored paper, tinsel and all

say they, and a "remarkable mathematician." Perhaps some shadowy desire to make the punishment fit the crime prompts this bit of information. But it is matched by schoolgirls who write: "What is a nice present for a teacher? She is a foreigner and teaches a foreign language. She is very dark and has a somewhat impatient disposition." "The Heir of Redclyffe" would seem an excellent present for this person, if only she were able to read it. But the editor is perhaps unaware of the improving character of Miss Yonge's stories. He has nothing more appropriate to suggest than a gold pen or a piece of statuary, neither of which is warranted a cure for marriage.

A married woman complains mournfully that she has to give a present to an old gentleman of eighty-two "who has everything he wants." It never occurs to her for a moment to spare him the added possession of a something he doesn't want. The utmost length her ingenuity can go is to write to a newspaper for advice, another woman feels moved to send "some useful trifle" to a missionary, and a young man, who signs himself Jasper, has a painful emergency to face. "I know two sisters who are nearly of an age," he writes. "I wish to give them both Christmas presents. Ought I to send the same thing to each? Their tastes, I believe, are different. I know one of the young ladies much better than her sister."—August Reppeler in Lippincott's.

Light Handed.
First Xmas and I'm just burning to know when it's time for us to go out.

Second Dittie—Bosh! Twelve o'clock! You are not up to snuff.

Blessed are the babies on Christmas day. They can be put off with cheap candy.

The head of the family expends many dollars on presents and receives two handkerchiefs and a pair of mitts. Then is the time to be merry.

A Prohibition Pie.
Kansas—Come over and spend Christmas with me, old boy, and take dinner.

Missouri—Thanks! I'd be happy to, but—

Kansas—Oh, that'll be all right. My wife has prepared a good old fashioned mince pie, and I can guarantee the flavor.

Don't think of yourself at all, if you can help it, just now, but study your family and friends from their point of view and then plan your Christmas treat accordingly. A little thing that one wants is worth a dozen that we do not wish for.

It doesn't seem to throw cold water over Kris Kringle's good intentions when we turn the family house on him.—Gleason's Republican.

THE INDEPENDENT

Published Every Thursday.

COLLEGEVILLE, MONTG. CO., PA.

E. S. MOSER, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1902.

THE INDEPENDENT extends the usual compliments of the season and most sincerely wishes every reader
A Very Merry Christmas!

THE statement is current that Governor Pennypacker's inauguration, January 20, is to be characterized with as little ceremonial display as possible. The Governor-elect is averse to all show and pomp and noisy demonstrations.

CONGRESS adjourned Saturday until January 5 for the holiday recess. Since it convened but little was done except to pass the Pension bill carrying an appropriation of \$139,000,000.

GOVERNOR-ELECT PENNYPACKER'S first appointment is an excellent one. Henry S. Dotterer, well-known as a business man, as the editor of the "Perkiomen Region," and as a gentleman of literary attainments, will be a helpful Private Secretary to Governor Pennypacker.

THE public pulse in Norristown is beating a little slower and contentment and resignation have taken the place of feverish excitement. The new public building, by decree of the Washington authorities, is to be located at the corner of Main and Barbadoes streets. Other desirable locations were ruled out on account of a more or less sudden rise in the value of real estate. We believe it has not been announced that the coming building will have a free library annex.

SENATOR MORGAN'S plan for the colonization of Southern negroes in the Philippines, is about as efficacious (on paper) as are the sundry plans of late evolved to regulate the Government-fostered Trusts. The negroes of the South need entertain no fear as to Senator Morgan's chimerical notions. And the pampered, Government-fattened Trusts will have no reason to tumble into hysterics in anticipating sundry regulations, so long as Uncle Sam supplies them with their regular rations from the public crib—at the expense of the general public. Uncle Sam's special pets should be regulated by shutting off the governmental source of their unrighteous supplies. Any other method must prove to be impotent and a make-shift sham.

ERRORS are rightly reckoned among the numerous aggravations attending human existence. Errors in newspapers are frequently sure to excite the anger of editors and reporters. Recently the editor of the Bristol Gazette, in writing about a public man, observed that "his logic was leavened with wit." Then in print the editor read as follows: "His logic was leavened with evil." Both a distinction and difference as to meaning between "wit" and "evil." Of course, some wit is inherently evil, and logic has been known to have been interspersed, if not leavened, with evil. But, never mind, the editor wrote "wit" and the other person spelled it "evil" with type, the press printed it just so, and editor Thomas didn't go to—camp meeting with editor Meredith next day. There's editor Hillegass, of Town Country, he has his aggravations, too, just like other editors. He didn't spell "shod" using a "t" for the hind end of the word, but it appeared in print as "shot," just the same. Then editor Haldeman's editor Cooper proceeded to poke fun at editor Hillegass, and, if we mistake not the tenor of an editorial in the last issue of his paper, editor Hillegass was not in altogether a sweet and placid mood for several days. But he has doubtless recovered his usual serenity. Yet, he will be likely to "proof read" the Harleysville News for several weeks to come.

THE editor of the INDEPENDENT has plead for good roads for a quarter-of-a-century and has wasted lots of effort just in that direction. He knows as well as he knows anything that approximately the sum of \$100,000 has been practically wasted in road-making every year in Montgomery county, as far back as he can remember. Now then: It is proposed that the State shall take a hand in road building in rural districts. Well and good. But, unless the State lays down definite and efficient plans for the right kind of road building and sees to it that the plans are thoroughly adhered to, the State had better not engage in the business. It had better reduce taxation and equalize the burdens borne by taxpayers, so that, for instance, farmers and other real estate owners will not be required to pay a double tax—the tax on all real estate and the tax on mortgages in addition; so that, another instance, persons of means and persons holding lucrative positions, yet owning no real estate, shall be required to pay a just proportion of tax for county, if not for State purposes. There has been enough money spent in every township of the county, during the past twenty-five years, to have well macadamized fifteen or twenty miles of road in each township. Has it been done? However, if the State will go into road construction work on a strictly business basis, and require townships to do that which has not been done heretofore, everybody will shout a long and loud amen!

WASHINGTON LETTER.

From Our Regular Correspondent.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 18, 1902.—For nearly a week the Venezuelan situation has occupied political attention in Washington almost to the exclusion of all else. The President and Congress are anxiously watching the Allies, although they do not believe that Great Britain will sanction any violation of the Monroe Doctrine. Secretary Hay has instructed the American ambassadors at London and Berlin to exert their utmost efforts to bring about an arbitration, before the Hague tribunal, of the difficulties which have caused Germany and Great Britain to blockade Venezuelan ports. Meanwhile, Belgium and Italy have presented claims against the South American republic and the Allies doubtless fear that, barred from seizing territory by the Monroe Doctrine, it will be difficult for all the creditors to collect the full amount of their claims from the bankrupt treasury of Venezuela.

It is now evident that there will be no action by Congress with reference to the South American trouble before the holiday recess. The subject was brought up in the Senate on Tuesday when, in executive session, Senator Teller asked Senator Cullom for light on the situation. Senator Cullom, as chairman of the Committee on Foreign Relations, briefly outlined the situation and expressed the belief that the Allies would be able to effect a satisfactory settlement without infringing on the rights of the United States. Senator Bacon, senior democrat on the same committee, voiced the confidence of his party in the administration and announced that there would be no attempt on the part of the democrats to embarrass the administration. Senator Cullom later told your correspondent that he believed the affair will have progressed to a point by the time Congress reconvenes after New Year's permit of a more intelligent understanding of the situation and he hoped that the good offices of the

United States in behalf of arbitration will have prevailed by that time.

There have been two passages at arms between Senators Quay and Beveridge on the floor of the Senate over the territorial bill. So far, however, no advantage has been gained by either side and both parties to the controversy claim that victory is in sight. By mutual agreement further consideration of the bill has been postponed until after the holidays when the measure will again become the regular order of business.

General Bliss has brought from Havana the completed treaty with Cuba and it has been forwarded to the Senate, as negotiated by him. There will be no consideration of the treaty, however, until after the holidays, when it will be taken up by the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations. There it will meet with a serious obstacle in the long mooted question as to whether the Executive and the Senate can effect a treaty which modifies the tariff without the consent of the House. This question, which has confounded the best constitutional lawyers ever since Washington sent Jay's treaty to the Senate in 1795, has never been settled and may not be in this instance, although there are several members of the committee who desire to see it fought out and settled once and for all time. The matter, of both houses is involved and the controversy promises to be an interesting one.

The provisions of the new Cuban treaty are in exact accord with the forecast made in these letters some weeks ago. There will be no serious opposition to its ratification in the Senate and if the House is consulted it will probably vote to ratify it, although the insurgents still claim that if the democrats adhere to their position of a year ago it will be quite impossible to secure even a majority of votes for it. The democrats are, at this time, unwilling to commit themselves on the subject.

Senator Morgan sprang a sensation on the Senate this week by his statement that the members of the Isthmian Canal Commission still continued to draw their salaries of \$1,000 per month. Without giving the subject much thought the majority of the senators had supposed that the commission had been discharged when it had rendered its last report to the President, since which time it has had no duties to perform, and they were greatly surprised to learn that the continued existence of commission was costing the government at the rate of nearly \$1,000,000 per year. Senator Morgan further stated that during the past year the Commissioners had spent but two months on the isthmus, but they had received expense funds to the amount of \$1,075,000. The Senator introduced a bill limiting the salaries of the commissioners to \$5,000 per year, allowing them actual expenses and requiring that they make their headquarters on the isthmus.

An important and interesting argument was presented before the Supreme Court this week in connection with the famous lottery cases which are being retried and which, if sustained by the Court, will have an important bearing on the trust question. The point made is that the Federal Government has the power to control interstate commerce in its broadest sense, in this instance, to the extent of prohibiting an individual's carrying a lottery ticket from one state to another, the opponents claiming that such carrying is not commerce and the prosecution proposing that all interstate commerce is commerce in the sense meant by the constitution. If the Court sustains this argument, which is set forth by Assistant Attorney General Beck, it will enable the Attorney General, under the same decision, to prosecute numerous trust cases heretofore supposed to be without the jurisdiction of the Federal Government.

The somewhat delicate situation arising from the appointment of Mr. John Barrett as Minister to Japan has been overcome. The Secretary of State, in notifying Mr. Barrett of his appointment, also notified him of the position of Japan and Mr. Barrett accordingly declined the position. Since then, the President has nominated Mr. Lloyd C. Griscom, now minister to Persia, and the protege of Senator Hanna.

A WATERFALL OF 978 FEET.

THE FALL IS NEAR THE SUMMIT OF THE SIERRA MADRE MOUNTAINS. From The Denver Republican.

William P. Dunham, a prominent Denver mining man, who, with his associates, Eben Smith and R. H. Reid, is negotiating for large properties in Mexico, has returned from a visit to the district. In addition to a tale of the vast mineral wealth of the Mexican district, Mr. Dunham also has a story of a wonderful waterfall which probably enjoys the distinction of being the highest waterfall in the world. The fall is known by the Indian name of Basseachic, and is located about 190 miles west of the city of Chihuahua, near the summit of the Sierra Madre Mountains. The elevation of the mountain is 6500 feet above sea level. The cascade falls 978 feet. "It is one of the most wonderful sights I have ever seen," said Mr. Dunham. "We went to the top of the falls. We could see the mass of water falling down, but the distance was so great that it turned to spray before it reached the bottom, and though we could see it falling, not a sound could be heard. At the time I was there a volume of water ten feet across and about two feet deep was flowing over the falls.

This great work of nature is located twelve miles away from any beaten trail, and it is probable that few of the English speaking race have ever seen it. A Mexican told me of it and conducted me there. I never would have believed it had I not seen it. One of our party measured the depth, so that this statement is authentic."

EMBARRASSING FOR THE PROFESSOR.

Professor (to his class)—Gentlemen, I have to apologize for a short delay in beginning this lecture. I have unfortunately left my manuscript at home, but my boy, whom I have sent for, it will be here shortly.

Professor's Son (audibly)—Mother could not find the manuscript, so she has sent the book you copied it from.

PASTURES WITH 800,000 ACRES.

THE LARGEST PASTURE IN THE WORLD, SAVE ONE.

As a result of the order of the Government to remove all fences on the public lands, Lake, Tomb & Co., large ranchmen of Dakota, have leased 800,000 acres of land in the Standing Rock Indian Reservation for a period of five years, paying an annual rental of 30¢ mills per acre and allowing each family of Indians to graze free 100 head of cattle. This will be the largest pasture in the world except the XIT ranch in the Panhandle in Texas. This immense tract will be fenced with three barbed wires, and at the expiration of the lease the fence will belong to the Indians. It will take almost 200 miles of fence to inclose it, the posts for which will be brought from Minnesota and Wisconsin, and will cost 16 cents each delivered on the ground. It will require 64,000 posts, and they will cost \$10,240. The company have on the range about 36,000 head of cattle, and the intention is to run the breeding stock and the others that are to be turned off to market in the pasture. They will put up enormous quantities of hay which can be cut in the pasture with which to feed the stock in the winter, and thus save the heavy loss incurred when cattle had to huddle on the range for a living during the winter. The cost of keeping cattle on the free ranges is about \$1.25 per head annually, and the company say they have figured the matter down to a fine point, and under the terms of this lease it will cost them \$2.46 a head, or about twice as much as on the free range.

THE DISTANCE OF SIRIUS.

SIRIUS IS DISTANT FROM US ABOUT FIFTEEN LIGHT YEARS. From The Washington Star.

By means of the spectroscopic velocity of the movement of a star in the line of sight—that is, toward us or from us—can be determined with a very high degree of accuracy. Upon this capability of the spectroscopic has been based a new and very simple method of determining star distances, which seems likely, where the circumstances render it available, to be much more reliable than that which has hitherto been employed. The result of an application of this method to the case of Sirius has recently been published by Mr. W. S. Adams, of the Yerkes Observatory. Sirius is a binary star, having a faint green companion which revolves about the principal star in a period of about forty-nine years, or, rather, the two stars revolve in this period about their common centre of gravity. From a series of spectrographic observations made by Mr. Adams between December 18, 1901, and March 12, 1902, combined with results obtained by Dr. Vogel in 1890, it has been possible for Mr. Adams to determine the velocity of the orbital movement of the principal star, and therefore, the size of the orbit. The actual size of the orbit being known, it is a simple matter to determine from its apparent size, as this has been ascertained from the micro-metrical measurements, how far away the star is—on the principle that the farther away an object is the smaller it appears to be. Mr. Adams has brought out as a result of his calculations that Sirius is distant from us about fifteen "light years. This is considerably in excess of the distance which has lately been given for this star, based on the measures of Dr. Gill, namely, about nine light years.



FREE

A bottle of this famous scalp preparation.

Eau Lustrale Hair Tonic

will be sent to each person sending us the names and addresses of 50 persons who have used this hair or are bald. This information strictly confidential.

Eau Lustrale Hair Tonic

Is a scientific preparation, that never fails to strengthen thin hair into a luxuriant growth, and brings to life the dead hair where the scalp is bald.

6 oz. bottle, 50¢; \$5 a doz.
16 oz. bottle, \$1; \$9 a doz.

Scalp Ointment

that will positively cure all Scalp Diseases, Itchiness, Tetter, Dandruff, Alopecia, Etc. Particularly efficacious for babies and young children.

75c a box; \$6 a dozen.

K. & E. Hoffmeister,

Hair and Scalp Specialists.
Dealers in Finest Hair Goods.
—MANICURING—
Separate Departments for Ladies and Gentlemen.
124 S. 13th St., Philadelphia.

STRONGEST JAIL ON EARTH.

Graham county jail, at Clifton, Ariz., is unique. It comprises four large apartments hewn from the solid quartz rock of a hillside. The entrance is through a boxlike vestibule built of heavy masonry and equipped with three sets of steel gates. The floor of the rock bound jail is of cement, and the prisoners are confined exclusively in the larger rooms. Some of the most desperate criminals on the southwest border have been confined in the Clifton jail, and so solid and heavy are the barriers to escape that no one has ever attempted a break for freedom. The notorious Black Jack was there for months. The wall of quartz about the jail is fifteen feet thick. Clifton is one of the great copper mining camps in Arizona, and has the reputation of being as depraved a community as yet exists on the frontier of civilization. In summer the mercury there frequently rises to 120 in the shade, and in the winter it never goes below 40 degrees.



Good Horse Sense

Teaches that glue and old eggs (used to glue some coffees with) are not fit to drink.

Lion Coffee

is never glazed—it's pure, unadorned coffee. The sealed package keeps it fresh and pure.

Parlor and Reception LAMP Display.

All our new pieces are here—they are the rarest pieces of the lamp art. We can honestly say we have the BEST LAMP display ever shown in this town. If you want the very finest choice come to day. Any lamp desired can be retained until Christmas. Decorated Lamps from \$1.50 to as much as you please.

G. LANZ,
DIAMOND DEALER,
311 DEKALB STREET,
NORRISTOWN, Pa.
At this time we reserve goods.

Christmas ANNOUNCEMENT

At BROWNBACK'S.

A Larger Display of Holiday Goods than ever awaits your careful inspection.

Something for the Old, Middle Aged and Young, can be found here.

Toilet and Manicure Sets, Glove, Handkerchief, Cuff and Collar Boxes, Albums, and Fancy Mirrors.

In Chinaware we have Fancy Salads, Berry Sets, Plates, Cups and Saucers, Sugar and Cream Sets, Etc. Don't fail to see our Parlor Lamps and Jardiniere.

Fancy Vases, Water Sets, and Fruit Sets, in Glass.

A special assortment of Fancy Ornaments in Glass, 10c.

Ornaments for Trimming Trees.

See our Miniature Furniture, Sideboards, Bureaus, Dolls, Beds, Chiffoniers, Etc.

A large line of Toys, Dolls, Tool Chests, Blackboard, Express Wagons and Sleds.

Fancy Towels, Bureau Scarfs, Pillow Shams, Handkerchiefs, and Neckwear.

A full and complete line of Candles, Nuts, Fruits, etc.

XXXX Sugar for Candy making.

Specialty selected stock of Groceries for the Holiday Trade.

Come in and look around. No trouble to show goods.

E. G. BROWNBACK,
TRAPPE, PA.

THE BIG STORE.

We Give Red Star Trading Stamps in All Departments.

ALWAYS A WELCOME VISITOR

Here is the store that helps happy hundreds to give Old Santa a really well come year after year. Just a few of the good things are mentioned below.

China Excellence :: ::

At this season you want the chinaware to be as nice as you can afford. We sell it so you can afford to have something pretty nice. Note the mark of the maker. Note the price of the seller. See if you don't get more chinaware value here than anywhere you ever visited.

A Popular Display.

The handkerchief is a most convenient article along about holiday time—it makes one of the most popular and acceptable presents. Here is the best display you'll be able to find—goods designed especially for the holiday trade, and a varied assortment insures easy choosing.

WINTER WAISTS

The stock of ready-to-wear waists for winter is still very complete, because we fill up broken lines rapidly.

The loveliest GLOVES in all the land, to fit each hand we keep on hand.

H. E. Elston,
58 and 60 East Main Street,
NORRISTOWN, PA.

DID YOU EVER KNOW THE IMPORTANCE OF THE

SLEEVE BUTTONS?

We are offering for the holiday trade a perfect stock—conspicuous for its vastness and variety, suitable for gifts for both sexes and all ages.

Pretty Gold Sleeve Buttons, \$2.00.
Diamond Mounted Sleeve Buttons, \$3.50.
All our FANCY HANDLED

Umbrellas

are of the BEST COVERS. The difference in price is due to the ornamentation of the handles. Gold and silver mounted in natural woods and Ivory.

J. D. SALLADE'S,

JEWELER AND OPTICIAN,

16 East Main St.,

Opposite Public Square,

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FOR THE BEST

OIL STOVES

GO TO

GEO. F. CLAMER,

DEALER IN

HARDWARE

AND

HOUSE FURNISHING

GOODS

Electrical and Bicycle Supplies,

Poultry Netting

ALL SIZES.

AGENT FOR

Singer Sewing Machines

Cyphers Incubators and Brooders, American Field Fencing, Ellwood Lawn Fencing, Cold Water Paint for barns, fences, etc.

Main Street, Near Depot,

COLLEGEVILLE, PA.

Women's Shoes, \$2.00

10 different kinds Butt. and Lace, in Kid and Calf Leather, as many kinds at \$1.50.

MEN'S SHOES, -- \$2.00

6 kinds Box Calf, Velour Calf, Satin, &c., as many at \$1.50.

Holiday Slippers

for Men and Women, 50c. to \$1.25.

Women's Cloth Juliet's, 75c. to \$1.00.

MEN'S RUBBER BOOTS

A High Grade for \$2.50.

H. L. NYCE.

6 E. Main St. NORRISTOWN.

HOLIDAY:

GREETING

To All!

FINE ASSORTMENT OF

Games, Toys, Albums, Vases,

Parlor Lamps, Chinaware,

&c., at City Prices.

BEAUTIFUL LINE OF

Handkerchiefs, Gloves, Box

Paper, Dolls, Sleds,

School Bags, &c.

GROCERY

DEPARTMENT

IS MOST COMPLETE—Raisins, Currants, Citron, Lemon Peel, Home-made Mince Meat, Sweet Cider, New Orleans Molasses, Oranges, White Grapes, Nuts, &c.

Choice Confectionery:

Hand-made Toys, 2 lbs. for 25c. Mixtures, 10, 15, 20 and 25c.

AT FENTON'S,

COLLEGEVILLE, PA.

If you have anything to sell, advertise it in the Independent.

LET US HELP YOU

CHOOSE YOUR HOLIDAY GIFTS

FROM OUR CAREFULLY SELECTED LINE

SUITS and OVERCOATS

New Smoking Jackets, Stockinet Coats, Knit Jacket Sweaters,
New Initial Hose, New Initial Handkerchiefs, Kid Wool Gloves, New Neckwear, New Shirts,
Gossameres and Raincoats, Silk Mufflers, Umbrellas, Suspenders, Silk Hats, Fur Caps, Wool Underwear, Trunks and Suit Cases.

I. P. WILLIAMS,

225 Main Street, and Springer's Block, ROYERSFORD, PA.

AFTER Christmas

We Hold the Usual Sale of

HOLIDAY GOODS

AT

A GREAT SACRIFICE

In the Carpet Department

THERE IS AN EXCELLENT STOCK OF

LINOLEUMS

AND

OIL CLOTHS

BRENDLINGERS

80 and 82 Main Street, 213 and 215 DeKalb NORRISTOWN PA.

Headquarters for HOLIDAY GOODS

GUS EGOLF'S FURNITURE STORE

Largest Stock in Montgomery County to Select From.

Come see, and you will be convinced, and will also find that prices are of quality of goods. A few of the articles:

200 Different Styles Fancy Rockers.	100 Different Styles Bedroom Sets.
100 Different Patterns Morris Chairs.	50 Different Patterns Parlor Sets.
100 Different Patterns Library and Library Tables.	75 Different Styles Sideboards.
50 Different Patterns Library Cases.	50 Different Styles Hat Racks.
50 Different Styles La'ies' Desks.	Dining Room Chairs to match.
25 Different Styles La'ies' Toilet Tables.	50 Different Styles Hat Racks.
40 Different Patterns Couches, covered with Velour and Leather.	40 Different Patterns China Closets.
	30 Different Styles Chiffoniers.

Large Assortment of Wardrobes, Office Desks and Odd Furniture Parlor Chairs.

Really here in this immense stock is to be found everything in FURNITURE needed in the household. Largest and finest stock of

CHILDREN'S TOYS

Such as Doll Carts, Rockers, Morris Chairs, Tables, Desks, Etc., all in great variety.

All Goods Guaranteed as Represented. Storage for Household Goods.

EACH PARTY'S GOODS LOOKED IN A SEPARATE ROOM.

GUS EGOLF,

113 E. Main Street, Keystone Phone 71. NORRISTOWN, PA.

WE ARE SHOWING

Our usual attractive values for Men, Young Men, Boys and Children. Undoubtedly our line of Ready-Made Clothing is complete in every point. A splendid range of prices that are better than the purse.

READY-TO-WEAR

OVERCOATS

FROM \$6.50 TO \$15.

In the Merchant Tailoring Department the choicest selections of Foreign and Domestic Weaves, Dressy Patterns Up-to-date Styles.

HERMAN WETZEL

66-68 Main St., Norristown.

COLLEGEVILLE NEWS STAND

Daily and Sunday papers, periodicals, magazines, etc., for sale. Orders for books, papers, reading material, etc., taken, promptly supplied. Segars, tobacco, pipes, &c. Candles in variety. Fruit in season. Papers served by carrier through Collegeville. JOHN H. BARTMAN, Newsdealer.

WANTED -- FAITHFUL

TO TRAVEL for well paid house in a few counties, calling on merchants and agents. Local Salary \$1024 a year and expenses, \$19.70 a week in cash and advanced. Position permanent, successful and rushing. Standards 384 Dearborn St., Chicago.

WANTED.

Experienced looper, knitter, toppers. Learners taken. Send resume to THE PERKIOMEN KNITTING CO., 8-31.

FOR RENT.

A shoemaker shop, next to post-office, in Collegeville. Apply at 10-9. F. W. SCHEUREN, Collegeville.

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Philadelphia & Reading Railway

Engines Burn Hard Coal—No Smoke

IN EFFECT NOVEMBER 16, 1902.

Trains Leave Collegeville.

FOR PERKINSON JUNCTION, BRIDGEPORT AND PHILADELPHIA—Week days—6.30, 8.12, 11.30 a. m.; 5.50 p. m. Sundays—6.30 a. m.; 6.23 p. m.

FOR ALLENTOWN—Week days—7.14, 10.02 a. m.; 3.19, 6.45, p. m. Sundays—8.30 a. m.; 7.39 p. m.

Trains For Collegeville.

LEAVE PHILADELPHIA—Week days—6.04, 8.51 a. m.; 1.36, 5.30 p. m. Sundays—7.06 a. m.; 6.21 p. m.

LEAVE BRIDGEPORT—Week days—6.41, 9.29 a. m.; 2.19, 6.07, p. m. Sundays—7.45 a. m.; 6.09 p. m.

LEAVE PERKINSON JUNCTION—Week days—7.00, 9.47 a. m.; 3.00, 6.31, p. m. Sundays—8.13 a. m.; 7.22 p. m.

LEAVE ALLENTOWN—Week days—4.25, 6.50, 9.45 a. m.; 4.35 p. m. Sunday—4.35 a. m.; 4.45 p. m.

ATLANTIC CITY DIVISION.

IN EFFECT SEPTEMBER 16, 1902.

Leave Philadelphia, Chestnut Street wharf

and South Street wharf, for

ATLANTIC CITY. OCEAN CITY.

6.00 a. m. Le. \$7.50 a. m. \$8.50 a. m. \$9.00 a. m. \$10.00 a. m. \$11.00 a. m. \$12.00 p. m. \$13.00 p. m. \$14.00 p. m. \$15.00 p. m. \$16.00 p. m. \$17.00 p. m. \$18.00 p. m. \$19.00 p. m. \$20.00 p. m. \$21.00 p. m. \$22.00 p. m. \$23.00 p. m. \$24.00 p. m. \$25.00 p. m. \$26.00 p. m. \$27.00 p. m. \$28.00 p. m. \$29.00 p. m. \$30.00 p. m. \$31.00 p. m. \$32.00 p. m. \$33.00 p. m. \$34.00 p. m. \$35.00 p. m. \$36.00 p. m. \$37.00 p. m. \$38.00 p. m. \$39.00 p. m. \$40.00 p. m. \$41.00 p. m. \$42.00 p. m. \$43.00 p. m. \$44.00 p. m. \$45.00 p. m. \$46.00 p. m. \$47.00 p. m. \$48.00 p. m. \$49.00 p. m. \$50.00 p. m. \$51.00 p. m. \$52.00 p. m. \$53.00 p. m. \$54.00 p. m. \$55.00 p. m. \$56.00 p. m. \$57.00 p. m. \$58.00 p. m. \$59.00 p. m. \$60.00 p. m. \$61.00 p. m. \$62.00 p. m. \$63.00 p. m. \$64.00 p. m. \$65.00 p. m. \$66.00 p. m. \$67.00 p. m. \$68.00 p. m. \$69.00 p. m. \$70.00 p. m. \$71.00 p. m. \$72.00 p. m. \$73.00 p. m. \$74.00 p. m. \$75.00 p. m. \$76.00 p. m. \$77.00 p. m. \$78.00 p. m. \$79.00 p. m. \$80.00 p. m. \$81.00 p. m. \$82.00 p. m. \$83.00 p. m. \$84.00 p. m. \$85.00 p. m. \$86.00 p. m. \$87.00 p. m. \$88.00 p. m. \$89.00 p. m. \$90.00 p. m. \$91.00 p. m. \$92.00 p. m. \$93.00 p. m. \$94.00 p. m. \$95.00 p. m. \$96.00 p. m. \$97.00 p. m. \$98.00 p. m. \$99.00 p. m. \$100.00 p. m.

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Furniture

Fresh From the Factories, now

on Exhibition at the

COLLEGEVILLE

Furniture Warerooms!

We are now prepared to offer

our customers goods at prices

never before heard of.

Our line of Chamber Suits, at prices ranging

from \$12 to \$50, are the best in the

market, and are well worth inspection.

Part of Suits in Hair Cloth, Brocade and

Silk Tapestry, from \$15 to \$50, are hard to

be equalled.

Sideboards, from \$25 to \$30, in Solid

Oak, fancy tops and plate glasses, are the

finest.

Dining Room Chairs, Fancy Rockers,

Lounges, Conch, Hall Racks and Fancy

Book Cases, that cannot fail to attract your

attention, both in quality and price.

We carry a full line of Rugs, Carpet

Sweepers, Toilet Sets, Fancy Lamps, Dinner

and Bed Sets.

Bed Springs, Mattresses, Pillows, Bolsters,

Feathers, and Bedding of all kinds.

Our line of Carpets is complete. Best

Turgan at 50 cents; good at 40 cents; fair

at 30 cents.

Picture Frames made to order.

Window Shades of all kinds. We are selling

a good Spring Roller Shade at 35 cents.

Make your selections early, while stock is

complete.

Repairing and upholstering attended to

promptly. All goods delivered free.

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Orders entrusted to my charge will receive

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The Plank Frame Has Come to Stay.

The Shawver, Wm. Hickox, Fisher

and other plank frames are built upon

the same general principles, differing

only in some details, as to bracing,

supports, etc. They have all stood the

test of practical use. The plank frame

is the only one that will stand the

test of time. It is the only one that

will stand the test of fire. It is the

only one that will stand the test of

water. It is the only one that will

stand the test of wind. It is the

only one that will stand the test of

earthquake. It is the only one that

will stand the test of all these things.

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